

# ENDER'S GAME - COURT MARTIAL OF COLONEL GRAFF

## Essay Grading Rubric

<b>A</b> <b>Advanced</b> Exceeds Expectations	<b>B</b> <b>Proficient</b> Meets Expectations	<b>C</b> <b>Basic</b> Below Expectations	<b>D - F</b> <b>Below Basic</b> Fails to Meet Expectations
<p>The introduction is engaging and attention-grabbing, introduces necessary background information, and includes a well-worded thesis statement that makes a specific claim that Graff is either guilty or not guilty.</p>	<p>The introduction introduces necessary background information in a simple way and contains a thesis statement that makes a claim that Graff is either guilty or not guilty.</p>	<p>The introduction basically introduces the topic, but the thesis statement is not clearly recognizable.</p>	<p>The introduction does not contain a thesis statement and does not adequately introduce the topic.</p>
<p>The body paragraphs use transitions effectively. Each body paragraph focuses on a specific piece of evidence. Topic sentences are varied and well-written. Each body paragraph contains several specific details and examples from the novel that logically support the topic sentence while keeping the reader engaged.</p>	<p>The body paragraphs use basic transitions (i.e. "First of all," "Also," "Finally"). Each body paragraph contains a topic sentence and does not veer away from that topic. Examples from the novel are given, but more specific evidence is needed to logically prove the writer's point.</p>	<p>Few transitions are used, and some may be ineffective (such as using "Also," to introduce the first body paragraph). Some body paragraphs go off topic, or two body paragraphs have the same topic. Evidence given does not logically support the thesis. Paragraphs are short.</p>	<p>No transitions are used. Body paragraphs do not have topic sentences and do not focus on a single topic. Some body paragraphs veer away from the thesis or main idea of the essay. Examples and details are missing or not logically connected to the writer's claim.</p>
<p>The conclusion begins with a logical, sophisticated transition. It reviews the original claim and the evidence presented without being repetative. The ending makes the essay feel complete and leaves the reader with a few final persuasive ideas.</p>	<p>The conclusion begins with a simple transition (like "In conclusion," or "All in all,"). It reviews the claims and evidence by restating the thesis or repeating the topic sentences. The ending stays on topic and wraps up the writing.</p>	<p>The conclusion does not use a transition to set it apart from the body paragraphs. It might be very short, such as a single sentence that simply repeats the author's original claim. The ending is not persuasive.</p>	<p>There is no real conclusion paragraph. The essay might end with a body paragraph, or a juvenile ending statement (like "I hope you liked my essay," or "That's all I have to say about that topic," or "The end.") The essay feels incomplete.</p>
<p>The writer appeals to audience's logic and emotion equally and comes across as unbiased.</p>	<p>The author appeals to logic or emotion well, but not necessarily both. Some statements sound overly biased.</p>	<p>Many statements fail to connect with the audience through logic or emotion and sound unreasonable.</p>	<p>The author makes no attempt to appeal to the audience, often even saying things that offend the audience.</p>
<p>Capitalization, punctuation, spelling, and usage errors are rare.</p>	<p>Grammar and usage errors don't detract from the writing.</p>	<p>Many grammar and usage errors make the writing difficult to follow or enjoy.</p>	<p>Writing shows no understanding of standard language conventions.</p>